

# WASHINGTON CITY.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1858.

## Business Notice.

By the business of the Union establishment, in view of the proposed change in its terms, will be continued strictly on a cash basis, all agents for the collection of subscriptions for the Union are discontinued. No payments should be made to agents after this date, except to Mr. W. C. Ligon, who is authorized to make collections in Baltimore, Maryland, and Virginia.

The foregoing notice is not intended to include any agents or collectors who now employ or have heretofore employed in this city, but those only who have performed such service in other parts of the country.

BY JAMES BUCHANAN,

President of the United States of America.

## A Proclamation.

Whereas information has reached me from sources which cannot disregard that certain persons, in violation of the neutrality laws of the United States, are making a third attempt to set on foot a military expedition within their territory against Nicaragua, a foreign State, with which they are at peace. In order to raise money for equipping and maintaining this expedition, persons connected therewith, as I have reason to believe, have issued and sold bonds and other contracts pledging the public lands of Nicaragua and the transit route through its territory as a security for their remission and fulfillment.

The hostile design of this expedition is rendered manifest by the fact that these bonds and contracts can be of no possible value to their holders, unless the present government of Nicaragua shall be overthrown by force. Besides, the envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of that government in the United States has issued a notice, in pursuance of his instructions, dated on the 27th instant, forbidding the citizens or subjects of any nation, except passengers intending to proceed through Nicaragua over the transit route from ocean to ocean, to enter its territory without a regular passport, signed by the proper minister or consul-general of the republic resident in the country from whence they shall have departed. Such persons, with this exception, will be stopped and compelled to return. From these circumstances, the inference is irresistible that persons engaged in this expedition will leave the United States with hostile purposes against Nicaragua. They cannot, under the guise which they have assumed, that they are peaceful emigrants, conceal their real intentions, and especially when they know, in advance, that their landing will be resisted, and can only be accomplished by an overpowering force. This expedition was successfully reported to previous to the last expedition, and the vessel in which those composing it were conveyed to Nicaragua, obtained a clearance from the collector of the port of Mobile. Although, after a careful examination, no arms or munitions of war were discovered on board, yet, when they arrived in Nicaragua, they were found to be armed and equipped and immediately commenced hostilities.

The leaders of former illegal expeditions of the same character have openly expressed their intention to renew hostilities against Nicaragua. One of them, who has already been twice expelled from Nicaragua, has invited, through the public newspapers, American citizens to emigrate to that republic, and has designated Mobile as the place of rendezvous and departure, and San Juan del Norte as the port to which they are bound. This person, who has renounced his allegiance to the United States, and claims to be President of Nicaragua, has given notice to the collector of the port of Mobile that two or three hundred of these emigrants will be prepared to embark from that port about the middle of November.

For these and other good reasons, and for the purpose of saving American citizens who may have been honestly deluded into the belief that they are about to proceed to Nicaragua as peaceful emigrants, if any such there be, from the disastrous consequences to which they will be exposed, I, James Buchanan, President of the United States, have thought it fit to issue this my proclamation enjoining upon all officers of the government, civil and military, in their respective spheres, to be vigilant, active, and faithful in suppressing these illegal enterprises, and in carrying out their standing instructions to that effect; exhorting all good citizens, by their respect for the laws and their regard for the peace and welfare of the country, to aid the efforts of the public authorities in the discharge of their duties.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents.

Done at the city of Washington, the thirtieth day of [ ] October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-third.

JAMES BUCHANAN.

By the President:

LAWRENCE CAS, Secretary of State.

## Governor Wise this year and last.

Governor Wise's letter to the Douglas committee, in more respects than one, is a remarkable paper. He lays down rules very much as if he was framing an organic law for all future generations of men. On the subject of making constitutions and breathing into them vital powers, he is not only explicit in terms, but fiercely denunciatory in advance of all who may disagree with him. He proclaims:

"Utter opposition to the detestable doctrine of the absolutism of conventions to prescribe and proclaim fundamental forms of government at their will, without submission to the sovereign people—a doctrine fit only for slaves, any claimed only by legitimists and despots of the Old World."

It is well that this decree is not retroactive, for last year the Governor, after an elaborate argument to prove that constitutions should be submitted to the people in all cases, for approval or disapproval, expressed his readiness, nevertheless, to go with Mr. Hunter in receiving Kansas into the Union under the Lecompton constitution. He had earnestly insisted that the Kansas convention should refer their labors to the people. We had been equally explicit in recommending the same thing. It ought to have been done; but in spite of the advice of a large majority of the democratic party, out of the Territory, the convention refused to do more than refer the slavery clause. They claimed that the question of submission was one which the people of Kansas had the sole authority to decide. Others had a right to express opinions upon it, but no right to give directions. At all events, the Kansas convention refused to submit their constitution. On the 16th of November Governor Wise wrote a letter, which was published in the newspapers, strongly urging, as we have said, submission, but anticipating the contingency which subsequently happened—the refusal of the convention to refer the constitution; and upon the point, whether Congress should receive the State into the Union, he is thus recorded:

"That the people shall, of right, judge for themselves, at the polls, of their own organic law, unless they expressly authorize agents to make a constitution for them, is a principle for which, as a member of the convention of Virginia, I would have contended as strenuously as I did for any other principle of popular sovereignty or of self-government. There was no such authority delegated by the people to the convention of Kansas. Yet, upon precedent, the convention of Kansas adopted a republican form of State government, and reports it to Congress without submitting it to the people. I agree with Mr. Hunter in accepting it and voting to receive Kansas as a State, slave or free, into the Union. And why? Because, first, of precedent; and secondly, whether it be accepted or rejected, it has to be submitted or is subject at last, in either event, to the popular will. If a majority do not approve of the constitution, they may organize another convention immediately, and adopt any republican form, after they are once a State, without submitting it at all to Congress."

This is plain. Twelve States had been admitted without submitting their constitutions, thus establishing a formidable and binding precedent to which Governor Wise was ready to yield obedience. There was nothing new, then, in the case of Kansas. The law that controlled it was established by Congress not by direct legislation but by precedent action. Governor Wise so regarded it. It was better that constitutions should be submitted for ratification or rejection; but, then, if the form is republican, they are legally binding nevertheless, and should be treated accordingly. Congress had made the law out of its own way of doing business. That body could not go behind the convention, unless, in the territorial act calling it into existence, it was directed to submit its labors to the people for approval or rejection. Such were the views and opinions of Gov. Wise last year. It is due to him, however, to say that he then argued stoutly against the propriety of the precedent, though he admitted its legality and force. His idea was, that powers delegated to a convention are specific; and that all powers not delegated are reserved; that the Kansas legislature, in omitting all reference to the question of submission in their act of the 27th of February, 1857, reserved to the people the right to sit in judgment upon the constitution which their convention might frame. This was Governor Wise's idea of what the law ought to have been; but it was not the law after all which controlled his judgment of the case, for he distinctly says, "Yet, upon precedent, the convention of Kansas adopts a republican form of State government, and reports it to Congress without submitting it to the people. I agree with Mr. Hunter in accepting it, and voting to receive Kansas as a State into the Union." Why? Because that is the law. Gov. Wise exhibited a great deal of learning to prove that the rule ought not to have been established; but, like a good democrat, knowing that in a democratic country rules are created by the majority, he cheerfully advised submission to it. That was clearly right. It was orderly, becoming, patriotic, and even magnanimous; for it is surely more meritorious to submit to a law, the objections to which are obvious, than to one of manifest justice. The sacrifice in such a case is what a good citizen, like Gov. Wise, is always ready to make in his country's behalf.

But, again, of the Illinois letter: Gov. Wise has changed his mind. He will not go a step with Mr. Hunter as he travelled with him last year, but discharges all his old guides, obliterates his foot prints of November, 1857, and declares, substantially, that upon "precedent" or otherwise, with or without a republican form of government, should a convention of a Territory report a constitution to Congress without submitting it to the "sovereign people," he will denounce it as "fit only for slaves" and its endorers as "despots." Where, now, is Gov. Wise's precedent to which he advised obedience last year? Has the rule been repealed? Are the dozen States admitted into the Union without submission governed by despots and inhabited only by slaves? But what did Gov. Wise think last November of the effect, so far as the people are concerned, of admitting States on the principle of precedent authority? Did he then see that it would make "slaves" of them? He says that, in any event, the people will get jurisdiction of their organic law, that it will be subjected at last "to the popular will," and that, "if a majority do not approve their constitution, they may organize another convention immediately, and adopt any republican form, after they are once a State, without submitting it to Congress." It will be conceded that this is an easy process of emancipating our "enslaved people; and we should feel more sure of the ultimate triumph of free institutions everywhere if despots held their positions by so frail a tenure. If Governor Wise's system then, of making "slaves" is not an improvement on the monarchical principle, to which he refers in his letter to the Douglas committee, his plan of striking off their fetters is surely a more effective one than has heretofore been discovered. It was proposed simply to make Kansas a sovereign State; and we are told how the people in that case would call another convention immediately, and adopt such organic law as they might desire. This was the opinion of the Governor last year, while this he is clear that to admit Kansas into the Union, even by virtue of precedent authority, on a constitution created by a convention without subsequent endorsement of the people, would make "slaves" of them all. Now, if to endow a people with sovereign authority is to enslave them, to keep them in subjection must enfranchise them. If those who admit them into the Union are despots, those who vote to keep them out must be the best of liberty-loving patriots.

But let us have a word touching the practical bearing of Governor Wise's doctrines about the "absolutism of conventions." If he was ready to agree with Mr. Hunter in November, 1857, to admit Kansas into the Union on the Lecompton constitution, the product of an "absolutist convention," why does he declare that such admission this year would enslave the people, and denounce the project as the work of despots? If he is now right he has much to answer for on account of his letter of November.

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The truth is quite apparent that Gov. Wise's enthusiasm is more than a match for his memory.

## GOV. SEWARD'S SPEECH AT ROCHESTER.

The opponents of the democratic party at the South, through their leading organs, such as the Louisville Journal and the Richmond Whig, are urging with great earnestness a fusion of all opposition elements, in all parts of the Union, for the grand purpose of overthrowing the democracy. The Richmond Whig is as desperate in its calls for such a fusion as it is fierce and reckless in wholesale denunciations of the democracy. It openly proclaims its willingness, nay, its eagerness, to unite with the black republicans in electing any man opposed to the democracy, to the presidency, rather than, by neglecting to coalesce with such a party, to allow the democracy a new term of office.

The Richmond Whig professes all the while a most sincere devotion to southern rights, southern interests, and southern honor. It aspires to the character of preux chevalier among the Virginia cavaliers, and vies with the fiercest hotspurs of South Carolina in the avowal of extreme opinions and wishes in regard to dissolution, slavery, and slavery propaganda.

Nevertheless, the Whig is for fusion with the black-republicans, or with anybody—is ready for anything, provided it can beat down the democracy,

even though it be at the expense of elevating in their stead to power the habitual traitors and sworn enemies of that section of the Union for which it professes so ardent a devotion.

Well, the great leader of the black-republican party of the North, Governor Seward, has just spoken at Rochester, in New York; and we desire to lay before the attention of the Whig and such misguided southern people as may happen to sympathize with it in the desperate desires and proclivities which it avows—a view of the doctrines and designs of that black-republican party with which the Whig is anxious to coalesce, as announced by their leader, Mr. Seward.

We, accordingly, publish in another place a few extracts from Mr. Seward's speech delivered last Monday night at Rochester. It will be seen that all the professions by the Tribune of an intention on the part of the black-republicans to "modify their creed" are mere feints, designed not so much to deceive southern oppositionists and northern black-sliding democrats, as to furnish both with excuse and apology for collusion with the party of Messrs. Seward and Greeley. In vain have Judge Douglas and Mr. Forney written to Mr. Greeley, as the Tribune declares they have done, imploring him to "modify his creed;" in vain does the Tribune profess to listen to such entreaties, and call upon its party to support the southern Americans of easy virtue, and the disaffected democrats, who vote with their organization in Congress. The abolition party have no intention, in fact, of modifying their anti-slavery programme in the least; and whenever its authoritative leaders, its "men who are in earnest," speak to meetings at home composed of "earnest men" in the republican cause, it is always to announce sentiments and to advocate measures such as those propounded and urged by Mr. Seward at Rochester.

So far from qualifying his old positions at all, Mr. Seward in this speech advances, if possible, a bow-shot beyond them, declaring that the conflict between slavery and freedom cannot cease until either South Carolina and Louisiana are filled by free labor, or else the soil of New York and Massachusetts shall be cultivated by the slave. The great question is now not of slavery in the Territories but of slavery in the States.

The peculiarity of Mr. Seward's oratory is its free and audacious employment of round assertion. There is no statement too improbable or monstrous for Mr. Seward's use, provided only it be useful as a support to his ingenious web-work of argument and sophistry. The speech from which we extract to-day contains some of the plumpest and coolest assertions of notorious untruth that even this audacious orator ever ventured upon. We can allude to but a few of them.

Our southern communities find themselves surrounded by several millions of African negroes, who were brought to their shores long years ago by New England and British slave-traders, who made large wealth by the traffic, and whose trade was protected against at every step of its progress by the southern colonies. The natural indolence and thriftlessness of the negro race renders it necessary that the whites of the South should hold them as slaves to compulsory labor, or else abandon the southern States altogether to the black race, to become a new Africa or second Hayti, Jamaica, or San Domingo. The principle of self-preservation, the democratic principle of the greatest good to the greatest many, is the one on which the whites of the South hold their slaves in bondage. Yet Mr. Seward roundly asserts that "the principle" of the southern system of labor is, "that labor, in every society, by whomsoever performed, is necessarily intellectual, groveling, and base, and that the laborer, [everywhere, of whatever race or complexion he may be,] equally for his own good and the welfare of the State, ought to be enslaved." That is the round and false assertion with which Mr. Seward commences his address.

His next proposition is, that it is the object of the slave aristocracy to push this "principle," not only into the Territories, but into all the free States; though he does not compliment the intellects of his hearers by a particle of evidence or of reason in support of his round assertion.

Mr. Seward then goes on to say that the great ameliorations in the condition of society in modern times are due entirely to the abolition of slavery, and makes the preposterous assertion that the superiority (7) of the social condition of European States over that of our own States is owing to the fact that in every European State, save Russia and Turkey, slavery has been abolished. In asserting a higher social condition for Europe than for this Union, he unconsciously falls into the *reductio ad absurdum*.

Mr. Seward then coolly informs the southern politicians who would woo his party into an affectionate coalition, that there is a necessary antagonism between slave and free communities, and that they never have permanently existed together in one organization, and never can.

But the most striking part of the whole speech is that in which the orator sets forth in detail the various things which the democratic party have done for the South and the slave cause. We present this part of Mr. Seward's speech in full. Its author is at least good authority with the men in the South who profess an anxiety to coalesce with him for the purpose of making war upon the democratic party, and we take peculiar pleasure in using what he says on this subject as a means of heaping coals of fire on the heads of his would-be allies at the South against the very same democrats whose services to the South he thus recounts.

## THE REGINA CELI CASE.

President Benson, of Liberia, has addressed a letter to the secretary of the New York State Colonization Society in regard to the charges made by Captain Simon, of the French barque Begonia, of complicity on the part of the Liberian government in the new French slave trade. President Benson pronounces as false the assertion that either he or the government of Liberia had any complicity, or consented to, the illegal operations of Captain Simon; that the government received \$1,564 as a passport money, and that some of the emigrants were French barque Begonia, of complicity on the part of the Liberian government in the new French slave trade. President Benson's letter is very clear and direct in its statements, and he promises to publish, at an early day, the full documentary evidence, which will completely exonerate the Liberian authorities from the charges of Captain Simon.

# THE WASHINGTON UNION.

NEW YORK, OCT. 30.—Stocks are dull and lower generally.—Chicago and Rock Island, 67; Illinois Shares, 84; Do. low, 96; La Crosse and Milwaukee, 41; Michigan Southern, 24; N. Y. Central, 63; Pennsylvania C. Company, 79; Reading, 52; Milwaukee and Mississippi, 18; Cautions, 21; Virginia 9's, 94; Missouri 6's, 89; Sterling exchange is firm, fair business, 109 1/2.

New York, Oct. 30.—a. m.—Flour is firm—sales of 10,000 bbls.—State, 40 to 45 1/2; Ohio, 35 to 40 1/2; southern, 35 to 40 1/2. Wheat is firm—sales of 10,000 bbls.—State, 40 to 45 1/2; Ohio, 35 to 40 1/2; southern, 35 to 40 1/2. Corn is quiet—sales of 12,000 bushels; mixed, 67 to 68 cents; State, 67 to 68 cents; southern, 67 to 68 cents. Lard is steady at 10 1/2 cents. Whiskey is dull at 22 cents.

New York, Oct. 30.—Cotton is firm—sales of 2,000 bales. Flour is firm—sales of 11,500 bushels; State, 40 to 45 1/2; Ohio, 35 to 40 1/2; southern, 35 to 40 1/2. Wheat is firm—sales of 8,000 bushels; white, 41 to 45 1/2; State, 40 to 45 1/2; Ohio, 35 to 40 1/2; southern, 35 to 40 1/2. Corn is quiet—sales of 12,000 bushels; mixed, 67 to 68 cents; State, 67 to 68 cents; southern, 67 to 68 cents. Lard is steady at 10 1/2 cents. Whiskey is dull at 22 cents.

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## TITLES TO LAND WARRANTS.

The Attorney General has, at the request of the Secretary of the Interior, given an opinion in reference to the proper construction of the act of June 3d, 1858, which provides that the title to a land warrant issued after the death of a person who applied for it according to the prescribed forms, "shall rest in the widow, if there be one, and, if there be no widow, then in the heirs and legatees of the claimant."

It is held by the Attorney General that the heirs of a man are those persons "who are entitled by the law to take his inheritable real estate at the time of his death. His legatees are those to whom he has bequeathed his personal property by will. His sometimes means children, in common parlance, and the word is to be understood in a statute when the context shows that intention to have been in the mind of the legislature. But I am not aware that any reason exists here for taking it in a sense different from that in which it is usually and properly accepted. This act of Congress, then, vests the land in the persons to whom the claimant may have left it by will; and if he died intestate, then it goes to his heirs—that is, to the persons who are entitled to claim his real estate by the intestate laws.

"I do not see anything in the general policy of the previous laws which would justify us in giving the act of 1858 a construction not warranted by its plain words. It is true that all the acts on the same subject are to be construed together as in *pari materia*, but where the words of a later act differ from those of an older one the later act must prevail, and give the rule in all cases to which it applies."

The Attorney General, accordingly, draws the following conclusions: 1st, that a warrant issued after the death of a claimant, who left a widow and children, enures to the widow's benefit alone; 2d, when the deceased claimant has a widow, with two sets of children, the warrant enures to the benefit of her heirs or legatees; 3d, heirs are those who are so declared by the law of the claimant's domicile.

## THE LATE ELECTION IN MINNESOTA.

[From the St. Paul Pioneer, Oct. 22.]

In the result of the late election in this State we find greater encouragement as to the future success and permanent ascendancy of the democratic party in Minnesota than any preceding contest affords. We have gained largely on the popular vote since last fall; and had it not been for divisions in our ranks, which have temporarily given the republicans an ascendancy in undoubted democratic strongholds, in the next legislature our majority on joint ballot would have been over twenty.

In the result in Southern Minnesota—that boasted republican stronghold—there is genuine cause of congratulation to all who desire the overthrow of black-republicanism in this State. The republicans made every effort in their power; speakers were imported from St. Paul, and the preponderance of republican presses gave the enemy a decided advantage. But the democracy entered the canvass united; they did not flatter away their strength by indulging in absurd local quarrels, or permit the personal animosities of politicians to give aid and comfort to the opposition. Our candidates were wisely selected, and they planted themselves with alacrity upon the great principle of popular sovereignty, and on that issue the battle was fought and the republicans routed.

Look at the result in Southern Minnesota as illustrating the wisdom of the democracy in that portion of the State. Houston and Fillmore counties were carried by increased majorities, despite the oratorical efforts of Gov. Ramsey, and our friend Judge Goodrich; Cavanaugh proved himself more than a match for either of both of them. Flower and Dodge, always republican, we carry under the lead of Judge Edgerton, and on the democratic principle of popular sovereignty. Freedom county for the first time has gone democratic. In Steele and Waseca we have increased our vote, and in all probability elected Pettit senator—a democratic success as unexpected as it is unprecedented. We have reduced the opposition minority in Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue. In fact, in every county in the State, where there was but one democratic ticket in the field, the party has gained largely.

Minnesota was never more thoroughly democratic than she is to-day.

## WHAT CAN IT MEAN?

A most singular event, which has just happened in Paris, has given rise to new excitement among the mystical coteries, which form a great portion, and the very best, of Parisian society. At the breaking up of the great general assembly of the Society of Jesus, which took place a few days ago, the Archbishop of Paris, member of the privy council, and quite in the confidence and intimacy of the Emperor, spoke in the most extraordinary manner concerning the doleful aspect of public affairs since the 14th of January, which had completely changed the position of the country, and the attitude of the government. "Messieurs," said the prelate, "I desire you to your respective duties, with the earnest prayer that you will unite in prayer and fasting and good works, to turn aside the evil which is hovering over us. A frightful danger threatens the country; a danger which our order will be the first to share. Time is not accorded to us to avert it; for it is here, even while I speak it is here, and knocking at the gate. I am not permitted to add more in the way of warning—neither must I reveal the nature of the danger with which we are threatened; but rest assured that it is imminent and deadly. When the great pest I now speak of was first imposed upon me I refused it, as I did all the rest of the great calamities. Overruled by those above me, the pest has been, as it were, forced upon me, and my mission upon this earth, therefore, made clear. I would have turned from this bitter cup, but am now prepared to drink it to the very dregs. Forget not that upon us must fall the weight of expiation which this nation has accumulated, and that we must become the first victims of the great sacrifice which is already laid upon the altar awaiting the hand which shall apply the first spark to the offering. The smoke and the incense of those who have gone before have not availed. Remember, Queen, whose moral life was all extinguished in the destruction of his palace and the malédiction of the people. Then came Alfred in 1475, whose voluntary sacrifice was not yet accounted of sufficient import, and more was still demanded. Sibour, in 1857, might be thought to have satisfied the ire of an irritated God; but it is not so. Worse than all, an ill-remembered God; but it is not so. Worse than all, a terrible warning of my fate. I am now, Messieurs, I say 'adieu,' and dare not 'au revoir.' Reflect on these things; watch and pray. Be vigilant and valiant in the good cause, and when it falls, let it be with the dignity worthy of the power it once owned and of the hope it still possesses. This wonderful inspiration, uttered in a tone of the deepest conviction, and to have produced an effect not to be described upon the assembly of priests of all ages, of all degrees, and from every province, assembled at St. Sulpice, to celebrate the *Grande Retraite*, the most solemn ecclesiastical observance amongst all those celebrated in the Gallican Church.

The new Masonic Hall at Doylestown, Pennsylvania, was dedicated on Thursday by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania with appropriate ceremonies. The procession was quite large and imposing, numbering nearly a thousand members. A very eloquent address was delivered by Rev. John Chambers in the Presbyterian church.

# LITERARY REVIEW.

A JOURNEY DOWN NORTH. By George Augustus Sala. Boston: Ticknor & Fields.

The Middle-Aged Man. In another column, we have commended both the above-named works to the attention of our readers. To those who desire solid wisdom, or who love the union of knowledge and humor, we also recommend them. They are written by master-workmen in the literary temple, and will continue to be sought for when more sparkling and ephemeral books will have been forgotten. Buy them, by all means, and also read them.

Ten years hence, we think the author of *Blonde and Brunette* will regret that he did not consign the manuscript to the flames. We say this because his volume exhibits traces of great genius and of some scholarship. In some portions of it we can almost fancy it is written by the author of the *Sparrowgrass Papers*, and then in the next paragraph we are disgusted by a want of real earnestness. The closing chapter is worth enough, however, to redeem much of the poor stuff in the volume, for it conveys just the moral that our unmarried daughters most need to learn.

## THE HOUSEHOLD EDITION OF THE WATKINS NOVELS.

The Household edition of the Watkins Novels not only maintains the popularity which greeted its appearance, but also the successive waves of the immortal novelist make their appearance the demand for them increases. It is a very gratifying evidence of the business foresight of Ticknor & Fields that after the many editions of Scott's novels that have been published, they should have seized the right moment, and have adopted the precise form, style, and price which the public want required.

## THE COQUETTE—A NOVEL. By the author of MISERERE.

ARMAN NEE—A ROMANCE OF THE OLD TIMES. By G. F. R. James. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Brothers.

The first of these paper-covered novels is of the order to which many thousands of our readers are specially attached—the intensely romantic and very improbable school. We cannot recommend that style of reading; we think it relieves the mental fibres and predisposes to moral diseases. But to those who will have romantic reading we presume it will be found very acceptable.

"The Coquette" has been spoken of in the highest terms by the English press, and seems to deserve the commendations it has received. It is well designed and as well executed.

"Arman Nee" is equal to anything James has ever written. His two horsemen occasionally make their appearance, and, indeed, we have been so long acquainted with these gentlemen that we are always happy to meet them. The story abounds in incidents drawn from the rich treasury of events which marked the conflicts of the Cavaliers and Roundheads.

## ISABELLA ORSINI—A HISTORICAL NOVEL OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

By E. D. Guiney, author of *Isabella Orsini*; translated by Louis Moreau. New York: Ticknor & Fields.

Professor Monti places his American readers under very great obligations by translating the wonderful productions of his friend Genaziti. Isabella Orsini fully equals the Beatrice Cenci in its thrilling interest and nervous style. The volume, accompanying the volume has a rare historical value, which is explained in an introductory letter.

## GOLD MINES ON THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER.

A Lawrence (Kansas) Republican extra contains full and late accounts from the gold mines, as furnished by Mr. F. H. Brittan, of Burlington, Coffey county, Kansas. Mr. Brittan was in company with Mr. William B. Parsons, whose full and satisfactory letter in regard to the gold regions we published last week. The report of Mr. Brittan agrees in all essentials with that of our correspondent, nevertheless the following extracts will be read with interest:

The company not having found gold at Spanish Peaks, upon hearing of a favorable account from the Georgia Company at the Cherry Creek diggings, determined to immediately go there. Accordingly they retraced their course, going north, and leaving Pike's Peak twenty miles to the west, arrived at the Cherry Creek diggings about the sixth of September.

For two weeks the company prospected on both sides of the Platte, finding in sufficient quantities so that with a pick, shovel, and pan, from \$2 to \$5 per day could be made. This brings our dates down to the 20th of September, when Mr. Brittan, Geo. W. Smith, Jr., Wm. B. Parsons, (city attorney of Lawrence), and Robert Peck, all members of the company, were ready for Lawrence. Mr. Brittan brings specimens of the gold, which we have seen, and which have been examined by several Californians in our presence, who all pronounce it the genuine article—known as the scale of drift gold by miners. Mr. Brittan has about three dollars worth of it, which he took out in one day. Each of the other gentlemen also has specimens.

Mr. Brittan intends to remain during the winter, and will return to the diggings next spring with a full outfit for mining. The remainder of the Lawrence company intended to remain in the mines about two weeks after Mr. Brittan left, and then to come down the South Platte about forty miles to Bent and St. Vrain's old forts, and winter there. The weather was fine at the mines when he left, but with very cold frosty nights; and it was the opinion of old mountaineers that within a few weeks the miners would all be obliged to seek winter quarters. The Georgia company had already disbanded, and sought winter quarters—some at Fort Union, others at Fort Bridger, and some had returned to the States.

There were about one hundred persons in the mines, and numbers arriving daily when Mr. Brittan left. Provisions were tolerably plenty, though at enormous rates—four dollars at \$25 per barrel. The gold dust is used in the mines as currency, at \$1 per pennyweight. Mr. Brittan met with 700 to 1,000 emigrants en route for the mines. He thinks that but few of them will be able to reach the mines. This fall, as probably before this there are heavy mounds in